PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. LVO-001.01

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Cancelled)

62. (Cancelled)

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Cancelled)

66. (Previously Presented) A method for providing control of at least one camera to at least one network user, comprising,

providing at least one network link between the at least one camera and the at least one network user,

providing at least one interface to the at least one network user, the at least one interface for generating variable speed camera control commands, and,

providing the variable speed camera control commands to the at least one camera.

67. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where providing at least one network link between the at least one camera and the at least one network user includes providing at least one network link based on supporting at least one of fiber optic, infrared, satellite, Radio Frequency (RF), microwave, cable, and Internet Protocol (IP) communications.

68. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where providing at least one interface to the at least one user includes providing at least one of: at least one applet, at least one application, at least one graphical user interface, at least one database interface, at least one scripting interface, at least one menu driven interface, and at least one text-based interface.

69. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where providing at least one interface includes providing a control area having a cursor that the at least one user can activate and thereafter provide the variable speed commands.

70. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where generating variable speed camera control commands based on data from the at least one interface includes,

determining a cursor position, and

generating the variable speed camera control commands based on the cursor position.

71. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where generating variable speed camera control commands includes determining a distance of a cursor from an origin.

72. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where generating variable speed camera control commands includes determining whether a cursor is active or inactive.

73. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where generating variable speed camera control commands includes computing at least one of pan, tilt, focus, zoom, and camera preset commands based on the interface data.

74. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, where providing the variable speed camera control commands to the at least one camera includes transmitting the camera control commands using the at least one network link.

75. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, further comprising providing the at least one network user with at least one of: compressed analog, uncompressed analog, digital, and streaming audio and visual data, based on the at least one camera.

76. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, further including selecting one of the at least one network users from which to provide control of the at least one camera.

77. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, further including providing a queue for control of the at least one camera amongst the at least one network users.

78. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) for providing control of at least one camera by at least one network user, the at least one network user and the at least one camera being connected by at least one communicative network link, the GUI comprising,

a control area,

a cursor confined within the control area, and,

where variable speed camera control commands are generated based on the cursor position within the control area.

79. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, further including an origin designation within the control area, and where the variable speed control command is based on the cursor distance from the origin designation.

80. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, further including at least one of:

at least one focus button for increasing and decreasing camera focus,

at least one zoom button for increasing and decreasing camera zoom, and,

at least one control for camera presets.

81. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, further including at least one location preset designation for directing the camera to a fixed location.

82. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, where the cursor includes an active mode and an inactive mode.

83. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, where the control area includes a coordinate system for mapping cursor position to variable speed camera control commands.

84. (Previously Presented) A GUI according to claim 78, where the control area includes a coordinate system for mapping cursor position to pan and tilt variable speed camera control commands.

85. (Previously Presented) A method for administering control of at least one camera to at least one network user, comprising,

associating at least one queue with the at least one camera,

receiving a request from one of the at least one network users for control of the at least one camera,

associating the request with one of the at least one camera, and

conditionally placing the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request.

86. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 85, where conditionally placing the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes determining that the at least one network user is authorized to request control of the at least one camera.

87. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 85, where conditionally placing the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes determining whether the at least one requesting user is a subscriber user or a non-subscriber user.

88. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 85, where conditionally placing the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes determining that the requesting user can usurp control of the at least one camera.

89. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 85, further including associating a camera control time interval with the request.

90. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 85, further including providing an indication to assume camera control to the at least one network user.

91. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 90, where providing an indication includes at least one of: sending a message via a network for display to at least one network user, and causing an audio sound to be provided to at least one network user.

92. (Previously Presented) A system for providing remote control of at least one camera by at least one network user, comprising:

at least one initiating device for providing access to the at least one network user over a network, the initiating device having a display for displaying,

an interface for providing variable speed camera control commands, and,

video data received from the at least one camera,

at least one server to receive the variable speed camera control commands from the at least one initiating device, to provide the variable speed camera control commands to the at least one camera, to receive at least one of audio and video data from the at least one camera, and to provide at least one of the audio and video data to the at least one network user, and

instructions for translating the variable speed camera control commands to instructions for moving the at least one camera.

93. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 92, where the at least one initiating device includes at least one processor.

94. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 92, further including at least one queue associated with the at least one camera.

95. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 92, where the interface includes at least one of: a graphical user interface (GUI), a database interface, a scripting interface, a menu driven interface, and a text-based interface.

96. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 92, where the interface includes a cursor and a control area, the control area having an origin, the cursor having an active and an deactivated state, where the variable speed control commands are based on the distance between the activated cursor and the origin.

97. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 96, where the cursor is at least one of: visible and non-visible.

98. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 96, where the control area includes a grid, the grid being at least one of visible and non-visible.

99. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 96, where the variable speed control commands are constant when the cursor is maintained in the same position.

100. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 96, where the cursor remains at the origin when in the deactivate state.

101. (Previously Presented) A computer product for providing control of at least one camera to at least one network user, the computer product disposed on a computer readable medium and having instructions for causing a processor to,

provide at least one network link between the at least one camera and the at least one network user,

provide at least one interface to the at least one network user,

generate variable speed camera control commands based on data from the at least one interface,

provide the variable speed camera control commands to the at least one camera, and,

utilize the at least one network link to provide the at least one network user with data based on the at least one camera.

102. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to provide at least one network link between the at least one camera and the at least one network user include instructions to provide at least one network link based on supporting at least one of fiber optic, infrared, satellite, Radio Frequency (RF), microwave, cable, and Internet Protocol (IP) communications.

103. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to provide at least one interface to the at least one user include instructions to provide at least one of: at least one applet, at least one application, at least one graphical user interface, at least one database interface, at least one scripting interface, at least one menu driven interface, and at least one text-based interface.

104. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to provide at least one interface include instructions to provide a control area having a cursor that the at least one user can activate and thereafter provide the variable speed commands.

105. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to generate variable speed camera control commands based on data from the at least one interface include instructions to,

determine a cursor position, and

generate the variable speed camera control commands based on the cursor position.

106. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to generate variable speed camera control commands includes instructions to determine a distance of a cursor from an origin.

107. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to generate variable speed camera control commands includes instructions to determine whether a cursor is active or inactive.

108. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, where instructions to generate variable speed camera control commands includes instructions to compute at least one of pan, tilt, focus, zoom, and camera preset commands based on the interface data.

109. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, further including instructions to select one of the at least one network users from which to provide control of the at least one camera.

110. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 101, further including instructions to provide a queue for providing control of the at least one camera amongst the at least one network users.

111. (Previously Presented) A computer for administering control of at least one camera to at least one network user, the computer product disposed on a computer readable medium and having instructions for causing a processor to,

provide at least one queue for association with the at least one camera,

receive a request from one of the at least one network users for control of the at least one camera,

associate the request with one of the at least one cameras, and,

conditionally place the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request.

112. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, where the instructions to conditionally place the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes instructions to determine that the at least one network user is authorized to request control of the at least one camera.

113. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, where the instructions to conditionally place the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes instructions to determine whether the at least one requesting user is a subscriber user or a non-subscriber user.

114. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, where the instructions to conditionally place the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request includes instructions to determine that the requesting user can usurp control of the at least one camera.

115. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, further including instructions to associate a camera control time interval with the request.

116. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, where instructions to conditionally place the at least one network user in the at least one queue associated with the request include instructions to determine that the at least one network user is authorized to request control of the at least one camera.

117. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, further including instructions to provide an indication to assume camera control to the at least one network user.

118. (Previously Presented) A computer product according to claim 111, where instructions to provide an indication include instructions to at least one of: send a message via a network for display to at least one network user, and cause an audio sound to be provided to at least one network user.

119. (Previously Presented) A system for providing remote control of at least one camera by at least one network user, comprising:

means for providing access for at least one network user to a network, the means for providing access having a display for displaying,

an interface for providing variable speed camera control commands, and,

video data from the at least one camera,

processor means to receive the variable speed camera control commands from the at least one initiating device, to provide the variable speed camera control commands to the at least one camera, to receive at least one of audio and video data from the at least one camera, and to provide at least one of the audio and video data to the at least one network user, and

instructions for translating the variable speed camera control commands to instructions for moving the at least one camera.

120. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 119, where the means for providing access includes at least one processor.

121. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 119, further including at least one queue associated with the at least one camera.

122. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 119, where the interface includes at least one of: a graphical user interface (GUI), a database interface, a scripting interface, a menu driven interface, and a text-based interface.

123. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 119, where the interface includes a cursor and a control area, the control area having an origin, the cursor having an active and an deactivated state, where the variable speed control commands are based on the distance between the activated cursor and the origin.

124. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 123, where the cursor is at least one of: visible and non-visible.

125. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 123, where the control area includes a grid, the grid being at least one of visible and non-visible.

126. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 123, where the variable speed control commands are constant when the cursor is maintained in the same position.

127. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 123, where the cursor remains at the origin when in the deactivate state.